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# BABYLON

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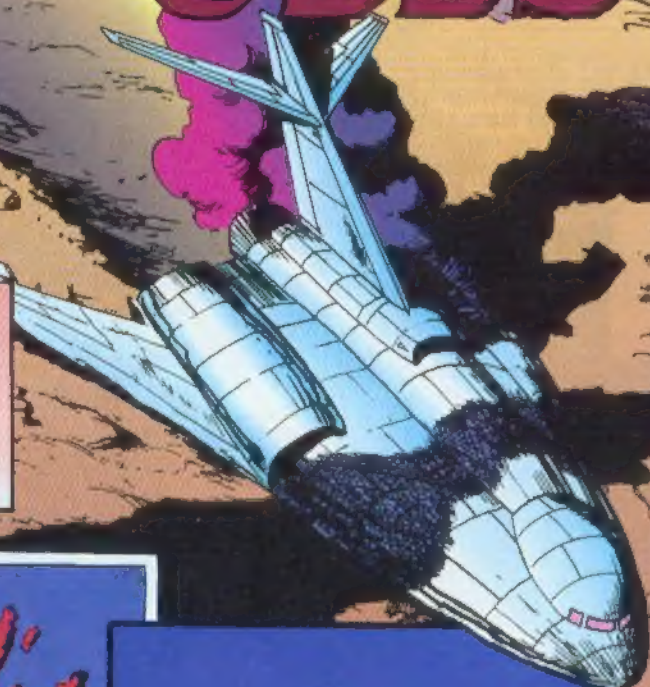
DEHAAS  
RIDGWAY



SHADOWS PAST AND PRESENT: PART II

# AGAINST THE ODDS

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BABYLON 5 CREATED BY J. MICHAEL STRACZYNSKI



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IT  
AIN'T EARTH  
ATMOSPHERE, BUT  
AT LEAST I CAN  
BREATHE IT.



C'MON, HOT SHOT  
PILOT, WE MADE IT. NICE BIT  
OF FLYING YOU DID, THERE.

*SHAK!*  
I HATE  
FOAM-PROTECT!  
IT'LL TAKE WEEKS  
TO GET IT OUT OF  
THESE DUDES.

*DWW!*  
TAKE IT EASY,  
GARIBALDI.



YOU OKAY,  
KEFFER?

FEEL LIKE I WAS  
BLINDSIDED BY A VORLON  
CRUISER. I'M BRUISED,  
BUT I'LL LIVE.



THINK THEY'LL  
COME AFTER US?

WHO? YOU  
MEAN THAT WEIRD  
SHIP THAT SHOT US DOWN?  
COUNT ON IT.

SO WHAT ARE  
WE WAITING FOR?  
LET'S GET ON THE HORN  
AND CALL BABYLON 5  
FOR SOME BACKUP.





NO CAN DO. TRANSMITTER'S BROKEN. WE'LL HAVE TO GO FOR HELP... IF THERE <sup>IS</sup> ANY HELP AROUND HERE

IF?  
IF??!

GEEZ, GARIBALDI—  
JUST GO GET THE GEAR  
AND HAND IT OUT. THAT  
FOAM-PROTECT MAKES  
ME CLAUSTROPHOBIC



YOU  
GET THE  
GEAR.

I'VE  
GOT  
SOMETHING  
ELSE TO  
TAKE CARE  
OF



HURRY  
UP, WILL YOU,  
GARIBALDI?

ALMOST  
DONE...



WEIRD, HOW I WAS JUST  
TELLING KEFFER ABOUT MARS...

FEELS LIKE THE  
SAME THING'S HAPPENING  
ALL OVER AGAIN



NO WAY  
I'M GONNA  
SCREW UP THIS  
MISSION.

AUTO-DESTRUCT

0	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	A	B
C	D	E	F	G	H
I	J	K	L	M	N
O	P	Q	R	S	T
U	V	W	X	Y	Z
VATED					



THE COMPUTER CHARTS SAID  
THIS PLANET WAS CLAIMED BY THE  
*CENTAURI*. SO THERE'S GOTTA BE A  
SETTLEMENT AROUND HERE *SOMEWHERE*.  
LET'S GET TO THAT MOUNTAIN AND  
RECONNOITER.

Y'KNOW...

LONDO IS THE *CENTAURI*!  
AMBASSADOR TO BABYLON 5. *HE* WAS  
THE ONE WE WERE TRYING TO FOLLOW.  
YOU THINK MAYBE... *HE* WAS BEHIND  
THAT ATTACK ON OUR SHIP?

MAYBE. RIGHT NOW,  
KEFFER, EVERYONE'S THE  
ENEMY. *EVERYONE*.

SPOKEN LIKE  
A TRUE CHIEF OF  
SECURITY.

WE TRAVEL AT  
NIGHT. REST DURING THE  
DAY. USE YOUR INFRARED SIGHTS  
TO SEE. FLASHLIGHTS'LL  
GIVE US AWAY.

GIVE  
US AWAY TO  
WHO?

THINK ABOUT IT. IF I  
HATED SOMEONE ENOUGH TO  
SHOOT THEM DOWN, I'D MAKE  
*DAMNED SURE* THEY  
STAYED DOWN.

KABOOOON!

SO... I GUESS  
YOU'VE SEEN THOSE  
SHIPS BEFORE?



"YEAH, REMEMBER I WAS TELLING YOU HOW I FIRST MET COMMANDER SINCLAIR, BACK ON MARS, YEARS AGO?"

HOW CAN WE DO RECONNAISSANCE MISSIONS WHEN WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR? SOUNDS LIKE TWO WEEKS OF BUSY WORK, TO ME. AND WHY USE A *CIVILIAN* TRANSPORT?

EARTHFORCE ALWAYS HAS A REASON, FOSTER

SHOWS HOW MUCH YOU KNOW, SANCHEZ. WHEN YOU'VE BEEN AROUND AS LONG AS I HAVE—

LISTEN TO YOU! GUY GETS HIS COMMISSION SIX MONTHS AHEAD OF ME—

—NOW HE THINKS HE'S A FREAKIN' COLONEL!

OH, YEAH—?

ANY SIGN OF OUR PILOT?

NO, LIEUTENANT COMMANDER SINCLAIR. WE'VE BEEN HERE ABOUT TWENTY MINUTES. NO SIGN OF *BARIBALDI*!

I EXPECTED AS MUCH.

SHOULD WE ORGANIZE A SEARCH TEAM?

GIVEN WHAT WE'VE SEEN OF HIM SO FAR, I'D SUGGEST STARTING AT THE LOCAL DRINKING HOLES.

NO... WAIT HERE.

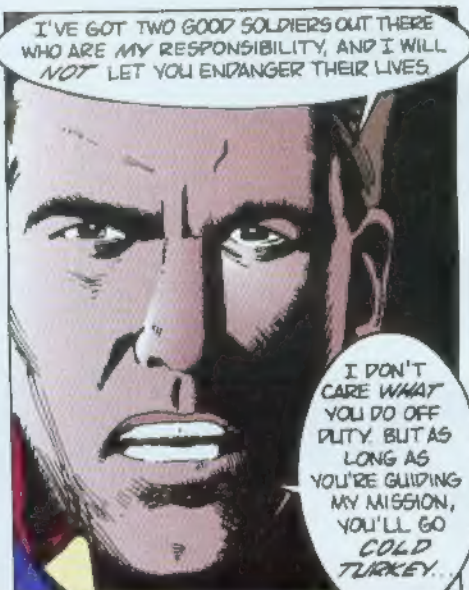








LISTEN TO ME, YOU PATHETIC LITTLE MAN. I DON'T CARE *WHY* YOU ARE OR *WHAT* YOUR STORY IS. EARTHFORCE MAY HAVE GIVEN ME THIS MAKE-WORK MISSION TO KEEP ME OUT OF THE WAY, BUT BY GOD, I *WILL* ACCOMPLISH IT.



I'VE GOT TWO GOOD SOLDIERS OUT THERE WHO ARE MY RESPONSIBILITY, AND I WILL *NOT* LET YOU ENDANGER THEIR LIVES.

I DON'T CARE *WHAT* YOU DO OFF DUTY. BUT AS LONG AS YOU'RE GUIDING MY MISSION, YOU'LL GO *COLD TURKEY*...



...OR, SO HELP ME, I'LL MAKE THAT THE *LEAST* OF YOUR PROBLEMS



FOSTER!  
SANCHEZ!



FOSTER, TAKE MR GARIBALDI AND GET HIM SOBERED UP. SANCHEZ, HELP ME LOAD OUR GEAR IN THE SHUTTLE

AYE, SIR

AYE, SIR









"YEAH, WE WERE ONE BIG HAPPY FAMILY. FOSTER AND SANCHEZ WERE OKAY, THOUGH. THEY WERE YOUNG, FOLLOWING ORDERS—THEY HADN'T SEEN WHAT I'D SEEN.

"THEY DIDN'T KNOW HOW MUCH I NEEDED THE BOOZE, DIDN'T KNOW HOW I CAUSED A FRIEND'S DEATH.

"I COULDN'T FIGURE OUT SINCLAIR, THOUGH



"RUMOR HAD IT HE WAS THE REASON THE MINBARI *SURRENDERED* TO US—JUST WHEN THEY WERE ON THE VERGE OF *WIPING OUT HUMANITY*.

"I'D EXPECTED SOME KIND OF CHARISMATIC *HERO TYPE*. I'VE SEEN *DEAD BODIES* THAT WEREN'T AS STIFF AS THIS GUY."





"EVERY DAY WAS THE SAME. GET UP, LOAD THE SHUTTLE, FILE A FLIGHT PLAN. THEN, AFTER WE'D CRUISED FOR AN HOUR, SINCLAIR WOULD GIVE ME A NEW HEADING, AND WE'D HEAD OFF IN *ANOTHER* DIRECTION."



"AFTER A FEW DAYS, I STARTED GETTING CURIOUS. ASKED SINCLAIR WHAT WE WERE LOOKING FOR. THE ONLY THING HE'D SAY WAS, 'ANYTHING THAT SHOULDN'T BE THERE.'"

COULD YOU BE A LITTLE MORE SPECIFIC?



OH THANKS, THAT HELPS A LOT. I'LL KEEP THAT IN MIND

JERK



"THEN, ON THE FIFTH DAY "

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER,  
NAVIGATIONAL SYSTEMS ARE  
MALFUNCTIONING

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM  
LIEUTENANT?

NAVIGATIONAL  
SYSTEMS DON'T  
RESPOND, AND I CAN'T  
RECALIBRATE  
THEM

CONFIRMED,  
SIR

DON'T LOOK  
AT ME, SYSTEMS  
WERE FINE WHEN  
I CHECKED 'EM THIS  
MORNING, LIEUTENANT  
COMMANDER I--  
WHAT THE--?

INERTIAL DAMPERS  
OFF-LINE! ATTEMPTING A  
MANUAL LANDING! BRACE  
FOR IMPACT!

THIS IS  
GONNA BE  
ROUGH



"I HELD THE CONTROLS AS LONG  
AS I COULD, BUT IT FELT LIKE A  
GIANT HAND WAS RIPPING  
THEM AWAY FROM ME"



EVERYBODY  
STILL HERE?

SANCHEZ!

STILL IN  
ONE PIECE, I—  
AAHHHH!

MY LEG'S  
BROKEN. PRETTY  
BAD, TOO



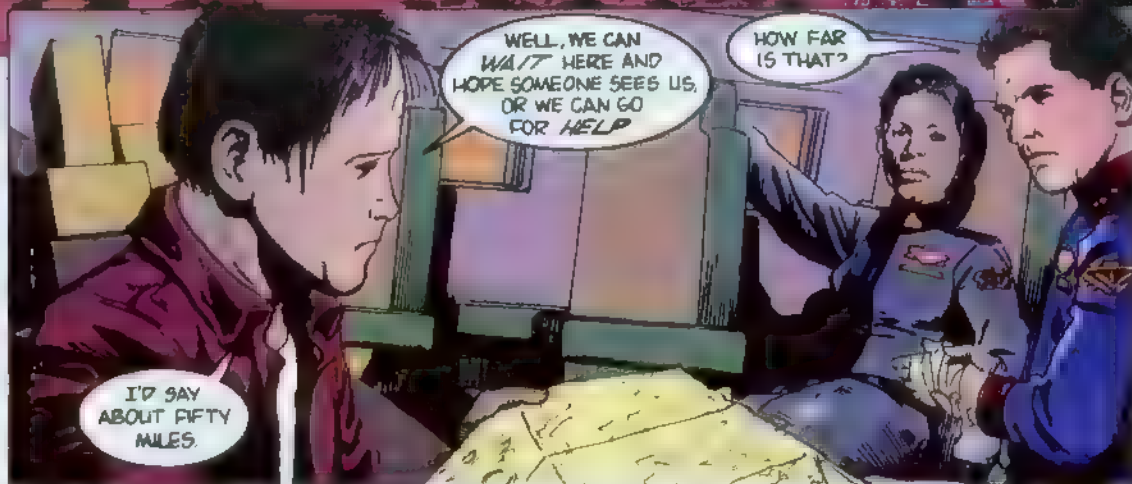




"I FIXED EVERYONE UP BEST I COULD. WE NEEDED HELP *REAL* BAD, BUT THE RADIO WAS KNOCKED OUT IN THE CRASH. NO ONE KNEW WHERE TO LOOK FOR US BECAUSE SINCLAIR HAD ME FILE A FALSE FLIGHT PLAN.

"NOT TO MENTION THE *MINIMAL* ATMOSPHERE AND SUB-FREEZING TEMPERATURES OUTSIDE

"IT DIDN'T LOOK GOOD "



WELL, WE CAN WAIT HERE AND HOPE SOMEONE SEES US, OR WE CAN GO FOR HELP

HOW FAR IS THAT?

I'D SAY ABOUT FIFTY MILES.



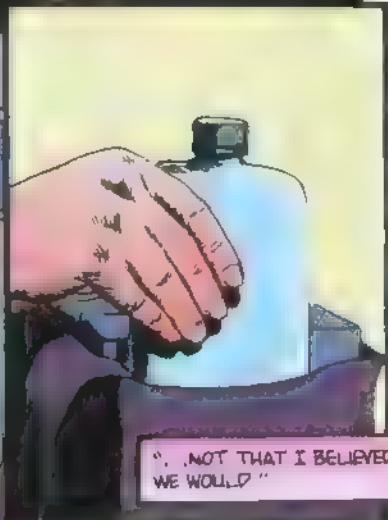
WHAT ABOUT SUPPLIES?

WE HAVE ENOUGH FOOD AND AIR FOR THREE PEOPLE FOR FIVE DAYS. I HAVE THREE ENVIRONMENT SUITS WITH 10-DAY POWER PACKS

THREE SUITS IN A FOUR-PERSON SHUTTLE AND ONLY THREE OF US LEFT. *NICE*, THE WAY THOSE NUMBERS WORKED OUT

"SINCLAIR DECIDED HE AND I SHOULD GO FOR HELP. WE GAVE SANCHEZ ONE ENVIRONMENT SUIT AND FIVE DAYS OF AIR, TO USE IN CASE THE SHUTTLE'S SYSTEMS FAILED

"WE PACKED EVERYTHING WE NEEDED TO SURVIVE



"...NOT THAT I BELIEVED WE WOULD "





"I STASHED FOSTER OUTSIDE THE SHUTTLE  
HE'D BE FROZEN STIFF IN LESS THAN HALF  
AN HOUR BETTER THAT SANCHEZ NOT HAVE  
HIM FOR COMPANY "

SECURE THE PERIMETER,  
LIEUTENANT NO ONE GETS IN  
HERE WITHOUT IDENTIFYING  
HIM OR HERSELF

AYE, SIR  
YOU CAN  
COUNT ON ME  
AND, SIR?

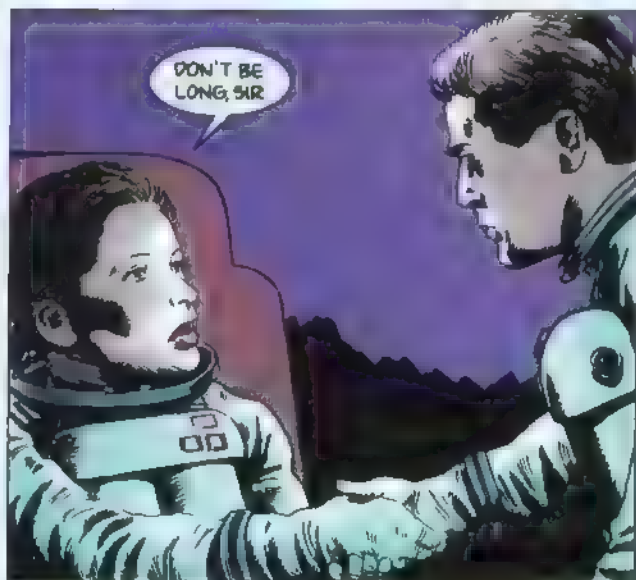
YES?

KEEP AN EYE ON  
GARIBALDI, SIR. I DON'T  
THINK HE'S BAD PEOPLE,  
BUT I WOULDN'T PUT MY  
LIFE IN HIS HANDS IF I  
COULD HELP IT

UNDERSTOOD,  
LIEUTENANT WE'LL  
KEEP THE COM-LINK OPEN  
UNTIL WE'RE OUT OF  
SIGNAL RANGE

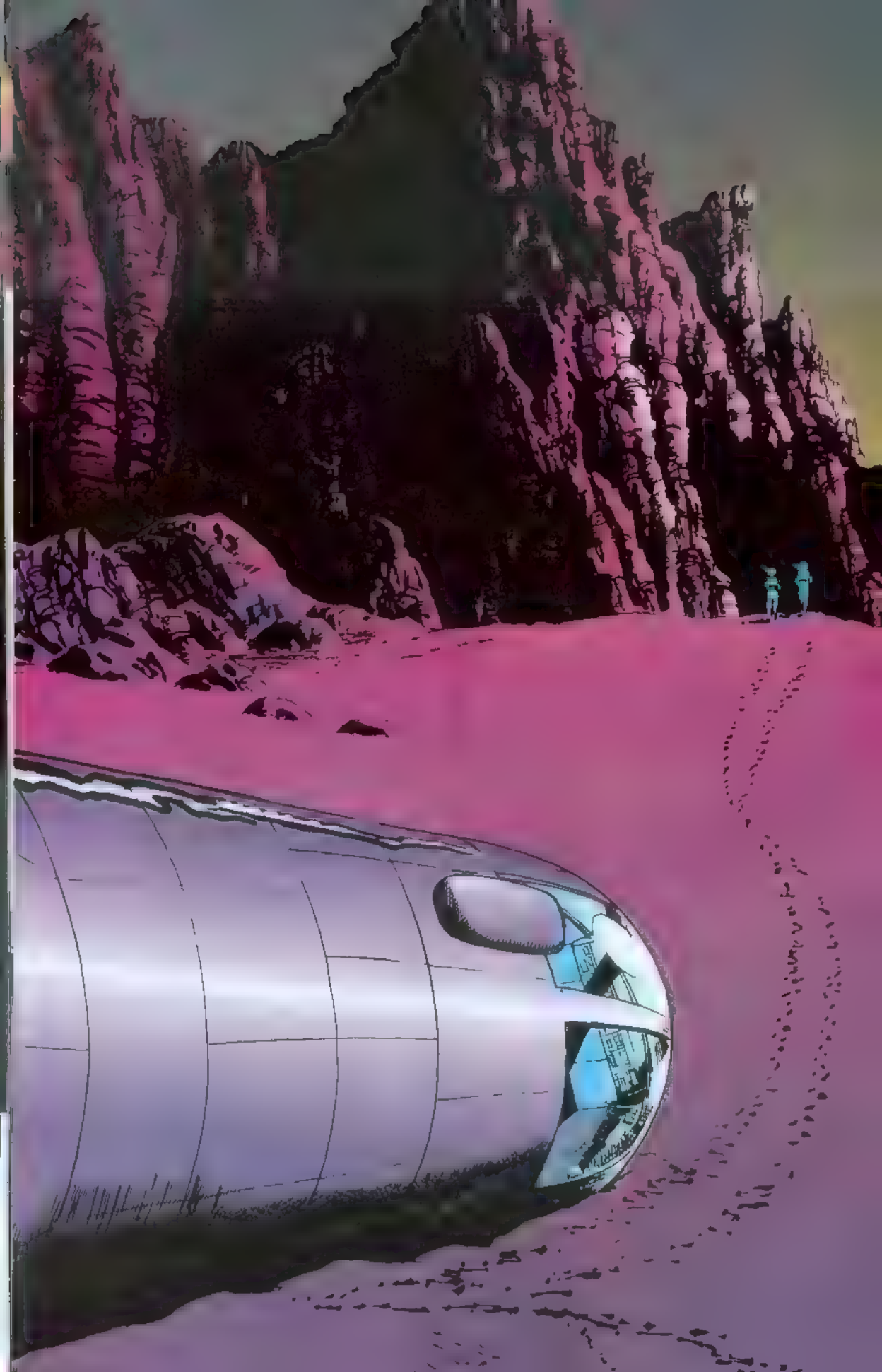


WE'RE ALL GOING  
TO DIE, SINCLAIR LET'S  
GET IT OVER WITH



DON'T BE  
LONG, SIR









SINCE WE'RE NOT GOING TO MAKE IT ANYWAY, JUST WHAT WAS IT YOU WERE LOOKING FOR?

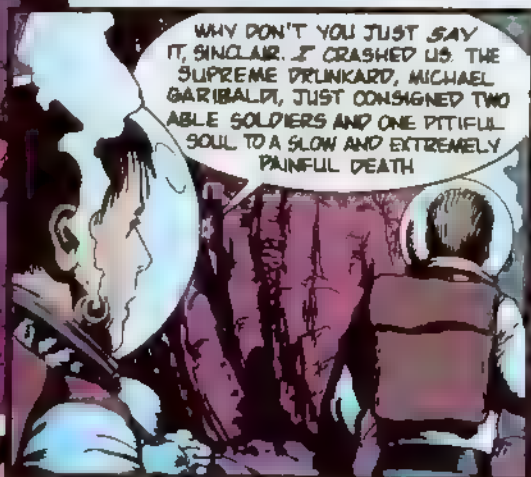
SORRY, GARIBALDI, THAT'S CLASSIFIED



RIGHT, I'LL JUST SAVE THAT QUESTION FOR MY FROZEN CARCASS TO ASK *YOUR* FROZEN CARCASS

YOU WANT TO DIE, GARIBALDI? HERE'S AS GOOD A PLACE AS ANY

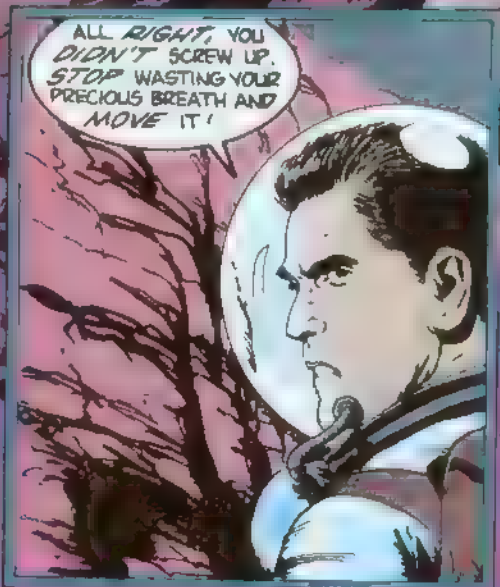
OH, YOU'D LIKE THAT, WOULDN'T YOU?



WHY DON'T YOU JUST SAY IT, SINCLAIR. I CRASHED US. THE SUPREME DRUNKARD, MICHAEL GARIBALDI, JUST CONSIGNED TWO ABLE SOLDIERS AND ONE PITIFUL SOUL TO A SLOW AND EXTREMELY PAINFUL DEATH



WELL, I WON'T DO IT. I WON'T TAKE THE FALL THIS TIME. I COULD HAVE STOPPED THAT SHUTTLE EXPLOSION ON IO I COULD HAVE KEPT MY BEST FRIEND FROM BEING BLOWN UP. NOT THIS TIME, THOUGH. THIS TIME, I DIDN'T SCREW UP!



ALL RIGHT, YOU DIDN'T SCREW UP. STOP WASTING YOUR PRECIOUS BREATH AND MOVE IT!



THAT'S MORE  
LIKE IT APOLOGY  
ACCEPTED

SANCHEZ  
TO LIEUTENANT  
COMMANDER  
SINCLAIR

WE  
HEAR YOU,  
SANCHEZ. GO  
AHEAD

SIR I DID  
A RECHECK  
OF ALL THE  
MAIN SYSTEMS  
INCLUDING  
NAVIGATION  
THEY'RE ALL  
FUNCTIONING  
NORMALLY

SAY AGAIN,  
LIEUTENANT?

YOU HEARD ME, SIR  
NAVIGATIONAL SYSTEMS ARE  
FULLY OPERATIONAL, INERTIAL  
DAMPERS ARE BACK ON-LINE—  
ALL SYSTEMS *NORMAL*

STILL THINK I  
CAUSED THE CRASH?

THIS IS  
IMPOSSIBLE ...

UH, SIR... ?

NOW,  
WHAT?

SIR,  
YOU'D BETTER  
LOOK BEHIND  
YOU

...NOW!





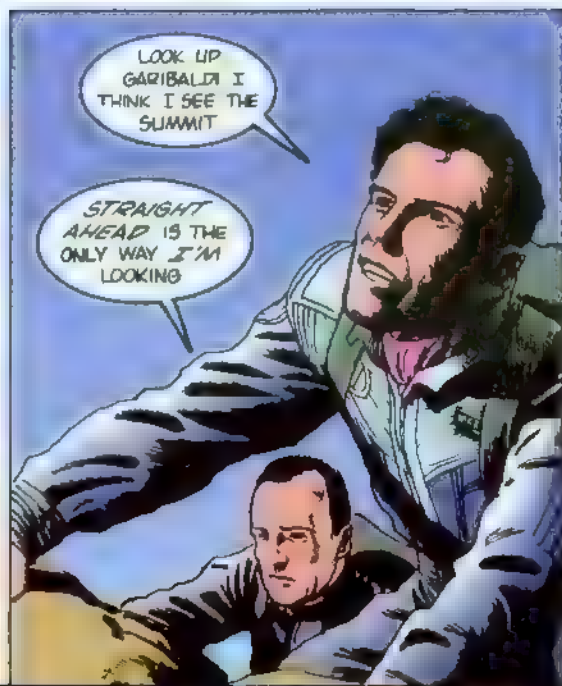
GET  
TO COVER!  
NOW!





WHAT  
DID YOU  
SEE?

DUST  
STORM LOOKED  
MEANER THAN IT WAS,  
BUT IT WAS STILL A  
LEGITIMATE THREAT  
WE TOOK COVER IN  
A CAVE FOR THE  
NIGHT



LOOK UP  
GARIBALDI I  
THINK I SEE THE  
SUMMIT

STRAIGHT  
AHEAD IS THE  
ONLY WAY I'M  
LOOKING



COME ON,  
SLOWPOKE WE'RE  
HERE



WELL  
WE MADE  
IT *THIS*  
FAR



TAKE A LOOK,  
GARIBALDI

I'M  
BETTING THAT'S  
CIVILIZATION.





OKAY, SO IT'S  
CENTAURI CIVILIZATION WE  
CAN WORRY ABOUT ALIEN  
PROBLEMS ONCE  
WE GET THERE

GET DOWN!

KEEP OUTTA SIGHT AND DON'T  
MAKE A SOUND

WE GOT  
COMPANY

I DON'T  
LIKE THIS A  
LOT I DON'T  
LIKE THIS A  
WHOLE  
LOT

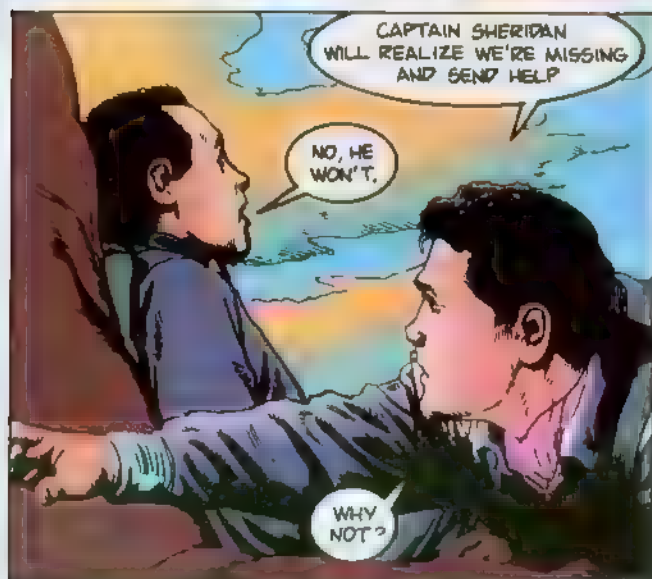
THAT'S  
THE SHIP  
THAT

SHOT US  
DOWN? YEAH,  
THAT'S IT ALL  
RIGHT RIGHT NEXT  
TO OUR  
SHIP

DID  
YOU SEE  
SOMETHING LIKE  
THAT ON  
MARS?

THAT AND  
MORE





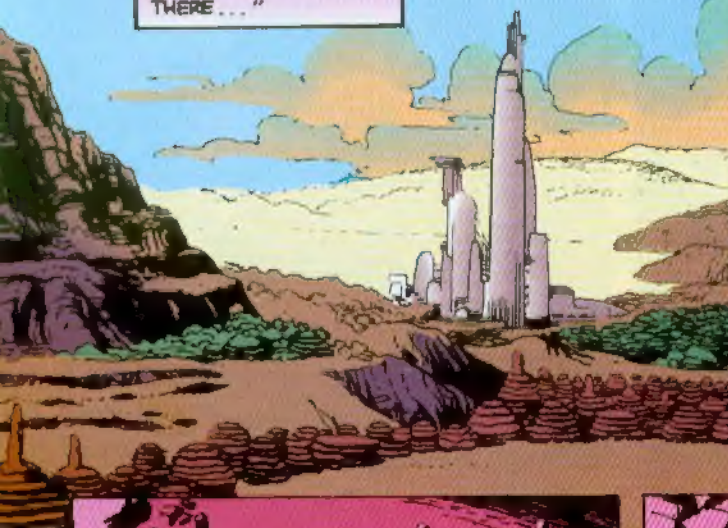


"THE IMPACT DITCH IS GONE. IT'S LIKE IT WAS NEVER THERE. HOW DID THEY DO THAT?"





"RIGHT. SO LET'S GET  
OUR EVIDENCES *OUT*  
OF HERE. THAT CENTAURI  
SETTLEMENT OVER  
THERE..."



... CAN'T BE MORE  
THAN FIFTEEN MILES AWAY.  
WE CAN BE THERE IN THREE  
HOURS IF WE *HURRY*.



OUR ONLY  
CHANCE IS IF  
THEY THINK WE  
BLEW UP WITH  
THE SHIP.



THEY DON'T  
THINK WE BLEW UP  
WITH THE SHIP.



LET'S GET  
THE HELL *OUT*  
OF HERE!



TO BE CONTINUED...



# B A B Y L O N

"It was the dawn of the third age of mankind... ten years after the Earth-Minbari war. The Babylon Project was a dream given form. Its goal: to prevent another war, by creating a place where humans and aliens could work out their differences peacefully. It's a port of call, home away from home, for diplomats, hustlers, entrepreneurs, and wanderers. Humans and aliens, wrapped in two million, five hundred thousand tons of spinning metal... all alone in the night. It can be a dangerous place, but it's our last, best hope for peace. This is the story of the last of the Babylon stations. The year is 2259. The name of the place is... **BABYLON 5.**"

Dear BABYLON 5:

Just wanted to say: "great work!" BABYLON 5, the comics adaptation, has really helped clear up some of the more obscure plot points of the television series, mainly the disappearance of Sinclair. Nice to see him again, even if things aren't going exactly smoothly for him now ("The Price of Peace" — issues #2-4).

It is also very exciting to see such a promising, intelligent science fiction story being adapted into a medium where there are no real boundaries. What will we see next? Aliens that don't have to abide by our bipedal structure? Or events taking place within these pages that no TV series' special effects budget could afford...? I mean, this is a great chance to get really weird.

Looking forward to what's in store,

LENNY MANCUSO  
BROOKLYN, NY

Lucky for you, weirdness is definitely in the future—at least, in this sector of the universe. And you're right about the special effects: for comic books, the sky—and the stars—are the only limit. So, yes, interesting times are ahead.

Dear Laura Hitchcock,

BABYLON 5 #3 ("In Harm's Way") was another great issue. There is only one problem with this comic — it's not long enough!! It only took me around fifteen minutes to read the issue and now I have to wait another month to see what happens next. Since you plan on using

different writer/artist teams every few issues, perhaps you could change to a double-sized format — or even better, ship it biweekly!! I hope you consider this, because at this rate the comic will never catch up to the episodes.

The writing and art were great in this issue, but I do have one complaint: Sinclair was drawn very badly. He looked like an old man in this issue, and on the last page he looked like a 70-year-old weakling. This is my favorite character, so please make him look more heroic. Other than that, Carlos Garzon did a great job.

I'm about to buy a computer and was wondering if you could make a list of all the B5 internet talk groups and how to reach them. I (and other readers) would really appreciate it.

Until next time,

THOMAS F. WOODS  
701 W. STAR ST.  
DENISON, TX 75020

There's definitely lots of talk about B5 huzzing around the computer networks.

Sources tell us there are B5 groups on all the major networks, and we know for certain there are several just on America Online. Log into one group, and folks will surely direct you to others. And if you have your own info to share, we'd like to know.

Regarding the art... we believe that using different teams on different story arcs gives each artist tremendous freedom to show his or her own vision of the B5 world. Can't guarantee you'll like every artist's

interpretation, but it is quite fascinating, you'll agree.

Greetings, Crew Members!

Nice work on B5 so far. I have to say that I find Garzon's pencils much more accessible (and the character likenesses more character-like) than those of Netzer (who tends toward the murky). There something very "classic S.F." about Garzon's style. I can easily picture him doing a graphic novel of one of Asimov's or Bradbury's works, and the coloring is a nice complement to this.

My only concern for you is that perhaps B5 is too intelligent for comics... I almost feel that the current story arc ("The Price of Peace") would translate well into novel form (but then, what's the point, I guess).

You are doing an excellent job of taking off from the television series and, so far, it's been a fun ride!

LOUISE MILLER  
PORTLAND, OR

Hi, Laura,

Just got done reading B5 #3. Good color, good body, and a pretty exciting finish! The flashback sequence in the mind of Dexter Hall, eerily piecing together the violent past, was enough to remind me of the movie *Murder on the Orient Express*. Writer Mark Moretti certainly left Sinclair in a bad spot on the last page! Can't wait till issue four.

I can't say, though, that I prefer Carlos Garzon's art over Michael Netzer's. Garzon's shots can be a

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lot more dynamic in places, but Netzer's style, his moodiness, is much more appropriate for B5.

I would like to note that it's refreshing to see a science fiction series that recognizes politics as a moving force wherever sentient beings interact. Seeing so many series where a war between the Blue aliens from planet Tidebowl and the Green aliens from planet Lestoil is stopped in its tracks by a ridiculously simplistic human trick has become exceedingly tiresome to me. I don't think we, as a species, will ever be wise enough to go around solving age-old problems of alien races at the drop of a hat. After thousands of years, we're still not doing that well with our own.

That a series like Babylon 5 would recognize alien races will have a legitimacy of their own, that we don't hold all the answers, and that our part of call all alone in the night would be a hotbed of subtle politics between alien species, strikes me as a much more realistic projection of the future.

**BILL WILLIAMS**  
TAMPA, FL

**Thanks for the encouraging word, Bill. We hope to do more of the same in future issues.**

**Laura and Jim:**

I've been having a great time reading your BABYLON 5 series. It's not really an adaptation, it's more like a companion for the TV series.

My favorite B5 characters are Garibaldi and Londo. I'd love to see a story with just the two of them. Garibaldi's wry sense of humor and Londo's double-talking would make them a great team.

One of the really cool features in your book is the Babcoms, which give a behind-the-scenes look at the show. I hope to see more of them in the future.

Your book is a dream given form...

**BOBBY GILL**  
CINCINNATI, OH

**Though these pages are currently dedicated (obviously) to letters from readers,**

**we're willing to do more articles about the TV show, if fans so demand. Let us know.**

**Dear Ms. Hitchcock:**

I have to be honest with you: I didn't really expect much from the BABYLON 5 comic book, going in. The show itself doesn't interest me all that much; my first impression of it was that it was watered-down Star Trek, and being something of a purist, a watered-down version of anything usually doesn't appeal to me.

Most people with an attitude like that... or who had simply tried the show and decided it wasn't their cup of tea for any reason... would probably never have bothered with DC's comics version of the show. I, however, am not most people. I consider myself to be a comics connoisseur, and I don't judge any book until I've read an issue first. And your BABYLON 5, I reasoned, wouldn't be the first time that a TV show I didn't like spawned a comic that I found worth collecting: a recent example of this phenomenon was Innovation's Quantum Leap. I found the show repetitive and dull, but the comic I thoroughly enjoyed. So I resolved that I'd give DC's BABYLON 5 a shot before I wrote it off completely.

Having done so, I am pleased to report that once again, a TV show I'm not wild about has generated a comic that I'm impressed with enough to keep buying it every month.

It strikes me as being rather weird, in this case, since both the TV show and the comic are from the mind of J. Michael Straczynski, as noted in the text pages. If Straczynski is a talented enough writer to grab me in the comic, why am I not equally charmed by the show itself? I have no explanation; perhaps for some of us, some concepts work better in comics rather than as filmed projects. Or, maybe I have a screw loose somewhere. God knows I've heard that before...

One thing that worried me going in was that I wouldn't be able to follow everything that was going on, not being an avid watcher of the show.

Some of the stuff in the Star Trek comics, I think I understand solely because I'm a longtime fan of the shows and I know all the characters involved... so, if a given story's writer doesn't provide any expository material on the series, I can still follow along because I know everything I need to know already. I was worried that the same might be true here, that you folks would assume everyone who picks up an issue of BABYLON 5 is already a fan of the show, and I'd be feeling left out because I'm not.

Those fears proved to be groundless, because writer Straczynski made sure he filled us all in on exactly what's been going on... enabling even Johnny-come-latelies like me to sail right along with the show's diehard fans. I appreciate that... in fact, it's one of the strongest reasons I'm impressed enough with the book to continue following it.

However, while the comic does impress me and while I do expect to continue reading it for the foreseeable future, I should point out that Straczynski still has some ways to go before that first negative impression of mine (that of "watered-down Star Trek") goes away completely. I hope he will continue to work on that as this book picks up steam.

In the meantime, though, thanks for producing a book that DC can be proud of and that proves I'm still capable of being surprised; a book that proves my decision to try a book before judging it is still justified.

**DAVID PEATTIE**  
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**Interesting thoughts, David — even more so because you're not a built-in B5 fan. Of course we're pleased you enjoy the comic book... but, seriously, you may want to try giving the TV show another chance. This season's twists and turns have transported the story to new, unexplored places, some of which fold into the comic book series. And not a drop of dampness in sight.**

## NEXT UP: **SURVIVAL THE HARD WAY**

Garibaldi and Ketter find that surviving in an alien environment takes more than quick thinking... especially when the aliens are eavesdropping. Writer Tim DeHaas and artist John Ridgway continue, with part 3 of Shadows Past and Present.

COVER ART FOR THIS ISSUE BY JOHN RIDGWAY.